

Benton Foundation  
1250 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20036

December 8, 2011

NOTICE OF EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Lifeline Link Up Reform and Modernization - WC Docket No. 11-42  
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service – CC Docket No. 96-45  
Lifeline and Link Up – WC Docket No. 03-109**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday December 6, 2011 Cecilia Garcia and Amina Fazlullah of the Benton Foundation<sup>1</sup>, Olivia Wein of the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC), Reverend Jesse Jackson, Steve Smith and George Korn of the Rainbow Push Coalition had a meeting with Commissioner Clyburn and Angela Kronenberg regarding the above caption Lifeline and Link Up proceedings.

The Benton Foundation and NCLC urged the Commission to transition the Lifeline and Link Up programs to include broadband. Benton and NCLC discussed the possible benefits to be gained from evaluating data from existing pilot programs such as “Connect to Compete” and the Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) programs. Benton and NCLC also highlighted the need to clarify the eligibility rules for shared and group living residents. Because Benton and

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<sup>1</sup> [www.benton.org](http://www.benton.org), Benton Foundation public filings, including but not limited to these reply comments, represent the institutional view of the Foundation as opposed to the views of any individual officer or director.

NCLC joined the meeting late Rainbow Push will file a separate statement covering the early portion of the meeting and their comments.

Sincerely,

/s/

Amina Fazlullah  
Policy Counsel  
Benton Foundation